

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) The international community is well aware of Pakistan's role in sponsoring, supporting and abetting terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. The United States has on a number of occasions, including in its annual report for the year 2000 on Patterns of Global Terrorism, acknowledged links between Pakistan and terrorist organisations. The United States has not placed Pakistan on the list of State sponsors of terrorism.

(b) and (c) During Prime Minister's meeting with U.S. President George Bush on 9th November 2001 in Washington D.C., the two leaders noted that both countries are targets of terrorism and affirmed the need for global war against terrorism and its sponsors everywhere in the world. Earlier, on 5th October 2001, the White House Spokesman had stated at a press briefing that President Bush condemned the terrorist attack in Srinagar on 1st October and that President Bush had also said that "terrorism must end everywhere, and that includes in Kashmir". Besides Harket-ul-Mujahideen, which had been notified by the U.S. State Department as a Foreign Terrorist Organisation, the U.S. Department of Treasury has notified Jaish-e-Mohammad as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist, alongwith Harkat-ul-Mujahideen and some other Pakistan-based organisations and individuals.

Government believes that India has the will, the strength and the resources to defeat cross-border terrorism. International cooperation, however, can make an important contribution in achieving success in these efforts.

Resumption of Indo-Pak dialogue

1269. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to continue the dialogue with Pakistan in continuation to the Agra Summit;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister refuse to continue the talks even though the Pakistan thinks to continue the same; and

(c) whether Government have imposed and pre-condition to commence the talks with Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) Government have on numerous occasions reiterated India's

commitment to resume the Composite Dialogue with Pakistan, and to pick up the threads of Lahore and Agra. Pakistan must end its sponsorship of cross border terrorism in India so as to create a conducive environment for the resumption of dialogue.

Pakistani leaders, in public, especially while addressing foreign audiences, frequently make propagandist calls for the resumption of dialogue but at the same time continue with Pakistan's sponsorship of cross-border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and other parts of India. The terrorist attacks on the Jammu & Kashmir State Assembly on 1st October, and the attacks on the Awantipura Airforce Station the same month, further underscored this fact. Pakistan has not even responded to the confidence building measures proposed to them on 4th, 6th and 9th July 2001 prior to the visit of President Musharraf to India the same month. The extent of Pakistan's seriousness to hold a productive dialogue with India is therefore very obvious.

Government are firmly resolved to take all necessary steps to resist terrorism until it is decisively crushed.

General Assembly Summit

1270. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the postponed November, 2001 Summit of General Assembly is proposed to be held; and

(b) whether Prime Minister would attend the summit to persuade the World the need for a global approach to terrorism?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH):

(a) The General Debate of the 56th Session of UN General Assembly, which was originally scheduled to be held from September 24th—October 5th, 2001, and was postponed on account of the terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001, was finally held from November 10th—16th, 2001.

(b) The Prime Minister attended the General Debate of the 56th Session of the UN General Assembly. In his Statement, delivered on 10th November, 2001, he referred directly to the need for a global approach to terrorism, stating that even while uniting the nations of the world in their grief, "this terrible tragedy has created the opportunity to fashion a determined global response